

## Message Text

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UNCLAS FRANKFURT 1094

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, GW

SUBJ: VOLUNTARY VISITORS: FRANKFURT CITY COUNCILLORS TO STUDY  
CITY PLANNING AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT IN U.S.

1. SUMMARY: A DELEGATION OF FRANKFURT CITY COUNCILLORS WILL VISIT SEVERAL METROPOLITAN AREAS IN THE U.S. DURING THE LATTER HALF OF MARCH TO STUDY CITY PLANNING, URBAN RENEWAL AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND HAS REQUEST OUR ASSISTANCE IN FACILITATING CONTACTS WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA AND CHICAGO. END SUMMARY.

2. A GROUP OF SEVENTEEN POPULARLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE FRANKFURT CITY PARLIAMENT (STADTVERORDNETENVERSAMMLUNG) PLANS TO VISIT FOUR U.S. CITIES AND MONTREAL, CANADA, FROM MARCH 17. THROUGH MARCH 28 TO OBSERVE CITY PLANNING, URBAN RENEWAL, MASS TRANSIT AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. THE DELEGATION IS HEADED BY KARLHEINZ BERKEMEIER, CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE, AND SIEGFRIED NEUBAUER, CHAIRMAN OF THE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE. ALL MEMBERS OF THE STUDY GROUP ARE DRAWN FROM THESE TWO COMMITTEES. REFLECTING THE POLITICAL MAKEUP OF THE CITY PARLIAMENT, NINE OF THE PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING THE TWO CHAIRMEN, ARE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (SPD), SEVEN BELONG TO THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDU), AND ONE IS A FREE DEMOCRAT (FDP). A STAFF OFFICIAL OF THE CITY PARLIAMENT, GERHARD WEBER, WILL TRAVEL WITH  
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THE GROUP. THE TRIP IS FINANCED ENTIRELY BY THE CITY

OF FRANKFURT AND DM 70,000(OVER 28,00 DOLLARS) HAS BEEN BUDGETED FOR THE PURPOSE. ALSO ACCOMPANING THE GROUP WILL BE ONE REPORTER FROM EACH OF THE THREE MAJOR FRANKFURT DAILY NEWSPAPERS, ASSURING CONDIERABLE PUBLICITY FOR THE TRIP AND FOR ATTMEPTS TO IMPROVE URBAN CONDITIONS IN THE U.S. THE DELEGATION THUS TOTAL TWENTY-ONE PERSONS.

3. THE RATIONALE USED BY THE FRANKFURT CITY GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT TO JUSTIFY THIS EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC FUNDS IS THAT AMERICAN CITIES ARE A DECADE AHEAD OF THEIR GERMAN COUTERPARTS IN CONFRONTING URBAN PROBLEMS AND THAT AMERICAN CITY PLANNERS AND TRAFFIC SPECIALISTS HAVE THUS GAINED EXPERIENCE WICH MIGHT BE USEFUL IN MITIGATING SIMILAR PROBLESM IN FRANKFURT. BASED ON HIS OWN TRIP TO THE U.S. AND CANDA A FEW YEARS AGO, FRANKFURT'S CITY PLANNING DIRECTOR HANN'S ADRIAN HAS SUGGESTED THAT THE GROUP VISIT NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, WASHINGTON, D.C. CHICAGO AND MONTREAL AND HAS SUPPLIED THE MANES OF ORGAINZATIONS AND IN SOME CASES, INDIVIDUALS WHO COULD PROVIDE SUITABLE PROBRAMS IN EACH CITY. (ADRIAN IS MOVING SHORTLY TO HANOVER IN THE SAME CAPATICTY, AND BERKMEIER IS A LEADING CONDIDATE TO REPLACE HIM)

4. A MEMBER OF ADRIAN'S STAFF HAS WRITEEN ON THE GROUP'S BEHALF TO REQUEST BRIEFINGS AND CONDUCTED TOURS OF DEVELOPMENT PORJECTS, WERE APPLICABLE, BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK (2 LAFAYETTE STREET, NEW YORK 10007), THE REGIONAL PLAN ASSOCIATION (230 23 5 41ST STREET, NEW YORK 10036), THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION OF PHILADELPHIA (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR R. DAMON CHILDS, CITY HALL ANNEX S, PHILADELPHIA 19107), THE SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIAN REGIONAL PANNING COMMISSION (PHILADELPHIA 19107). THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO (DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF URBAN RENEVAL D.E. MACKELMANN, 130 NORTH WELLS STREET, CHAICAGO), AND THE NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS PLANNNING COMMISSION (CHICAGO). SINCE THE GROUP WILL BE IN UNCLASSIFIED

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WASHINGTON, D.C. ONLY ON THE WEEKEND OF MARCH 22-23, NO REPEAT NO ASSITANCE HAS BEEN SOUGHT FROM THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION. INSTEAD, ARRANGMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE THROUGH A TRAVEL BUREAU FOR CONUDCTED SIGHTSEEING TOURS OF RENEWAL AREAS AND TOURIST ATTRACTIONS.

5. LETTER WERE SENT TO THE SIC ORGANIZATIONS NAMED

ABOVE IN EARLY JANUARY AND AGAIN IN EARLY FEBRUARY, BUT NO REPLIES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED TO DATE. THE DELEGATION HAS NOW TURNED TO US FOR HELP IN CONTACTING THE SIX ORGANIZATIONS OR SUGGESTING ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF MEETING THE SUTDY GROUP'S OBJECTIVES. WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE (PRESUMABLY CU'S VOLUNTARY VISTORS BUREAU) IN CONTACTING THE SIX ORGANIZATIONS (TWO IN EACH CITY) TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE GROUP'S REQUESTS CAN BE SATISFIED. A DAY WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO EACH OF THE ORGANIZATIONS. ALTHOUGH EACH WAS GIVEN FAIRLY SPECIFIC INDICATIONS OF THE GROUP'S INTERESTS, BASED ON ADRIAN'S PREVIOUS VISIT, EACH ORGANIZATION SHOULD FEEL FREE TO INCLUDE WHATEVER RECENT OR CURRENT PROJECTS IT BELIEVES WOULD BE MOST INTERSTING. AT THE TIME OF ADRIAN'S VISIT A LEAST, GERMAN-SPEAKING PERSONNEL WERE AVAILABLE AT EACH OF THESE ORGAINZATIONS. IN ADDITION TO BRIEFINGS, THE GROUP HOPES TO VISIT RENEWAL AREAS AND DEVELOPMENT SITES AND EXPECTS TO PAY FOR NECESSARY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION ARRANGED BY THE HOST ORGANIZATION.

6. A MAJOR LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT HAS BOOKED FLIGHTS AND HOTELS AND ARRANGED TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN AIRPORTS AND HOTELS. THE GROUP ARRIVES MARCH 17 AT 1655 HOURS AT JFK ABOARD LH-404 (IMMIGRATION ADN SUCTOMS FACILITATION APPRECIATED) AND WIL STAY AT STALER HILTON. DEPARTUER MARCH 19 AT 1920 HOUS VIA TW-573, ARRIVAL PHILDELPHIA 2008HOURS, STAYING AT HOLIDAY IN (INDEPENDENCE MALL). DEPART MARCH 22 AT 0900 HOURS BY BUS, ARRIVE WASHINGTON 1200 HOURS AT STATLER HLITON. DEPARTM MMARCH 23 AT 1830 VIA AA-377, ARRIVE CHICAGO 1926, STAYING SHERATION (505 N. MIGHIGAN).  
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DEPARTM MARCH 25 AT 1850 VIA AC-736 FOR MOTREAL. IN ORDER TO AVOID COMPLICATIONS AND REPERCUSSIONS ON OTHER PARTS OF THE PROGRAM, THE GROUP HOPES TO AVOID SCHEDULE CHANGES. HARLAN

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